

I. AMENDMENTS

Please amend the subject application as follows.

In the claims:

Cancel claim ~~108~~, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 73, ~~replace~~ "A primer" with --An oligonucleotide primer--.

Claim 78, ~~line 1~~, each occurrence, prior to "primers" insert --oligonucleotide--.

Claim 84, ~~line 1~~, prior to "primers" insert --oligonucleotide--.

Claim 89, ~~line 1~~, replace "a primer" with "an oligonucleotide--.

Please amend claims 76, 77, 82, 83, 105 to 107 and 109 to 111, under the provision of 37 C.F.R. § 121(b) by deleting the bracketed material and inserting the underlined material as follows:

Sub F2
76. (Amended) An extended primer comprising the tagged [The] primer of claim 75, wherein the tagged primer [which] has been base-paired to a template and [has been] extended by a polymerase.

77. (Amended) An oligonucleotide comprising [The] the extended primer of claim 76, wherein the tagged, extended primer has been separated from the template.

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82. (Amended) A set of extended primers comprising the [The] set of primers of claim 81, wherein each tagged primer [which] has been base-paired to a template [has been] and extended by a polymerase.

83. (Amended) A set of tagged oligonucleotides comprising the [The] extended primers of claim 82, wherein the tagged, extended primers [have been separated from the template] are separated from their templates.

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105. (Twice Amended) An oligonucleotide produced by the method comprising extending the [The] primer of claim 101[,] [further comprising extending the primer] by a polymerase to produce an [oligonucleotide] extended primer and separating the tagged, extended oligonucleotide from the complementary sequence.

106. (Twice Amended) The oligonucleotide [primer] of claim 105 wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is bound to the oligonucleotide through an amine linkage.

107. (Twice Amended) The oligonucleotide [primer] of claim 105, wherein the oligonucleotide is tagged at its 5' end or in the vicinity thereof.

Sub E5
109. (Twice Amended) [The primer of claim 105,] A chain termination DNA sequencing reaction comprising use of the oligonucleotide of claim 105 [wherein the method further comprises a chain termination DNA sequencing reaction].

Sub F10
110. (Twice Amended) The chain termination DNA sequencing reaction [The primer] of claim 109, wherein, in the performance of a set of one or more chain termination DNA sequencing reactions, the tagged oligonucleotides comprising one of the sets are distinguishable from the tagged oligonucleotides comprising the other sets.

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111. (Twice Amended) The chain termination DNA sequencing reaction [The primer] of claim 110, wherein the primer includes all four chain termination DNA sequencing reactions, and the tagged oligonucleotides comprising each of the sets are distinguishable by their spectral characteristics from the tagged oligonucleotides comprising each of the other sets.

Please add new claims 118-132 as follows.

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118. (New) The oligonucleotide primer of claim 73, wherein the primer is DNA.

119. (New) The oligonucleotide primer of claim 73, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a high-intensity monochromatic light source.

120. (New) The oligonucleotide primer of claim 73, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a laser.

121. (New) The set of primers of claim 78, wherein the primers are DNA.

122. (New) The set of primers of claim 78, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a high-intensity monochromatic light source.

123. (New) The set of primers of claim 78, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a laser.

124. (New) The set of reagents of claim 84, wherein the primers are DNA.

125. (New) The set of reagents of claim 84, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a high-intensity monochromatic light source.

126. (New) The set of reagents of claim 84, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a laser.

127. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 89, wherein the primer is DNA.

128. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 89, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a high-intensity monochromatic light source.

129. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 89, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a laser.

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130. (New) The primer of claim 101, wherein the primer is DNA.

131. (New) The primer of claim 101, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a high-intensity monochromatic light source.

132. (New) The primer of claim 101, wherein the chromophore or fluorophore is detectable by exposure to a laser.

II. REMARKS

Applicants' representatives initially would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to the undersigned and Applicants' representatives during the January 24, 1997, personal interview. The above amendments and remarks which follow are further to the issues discussed during the personal interview.

Claims 73 to 117 are pending in this application. Claims 112 to 117 have been withdrawn from examination as a result a requirement for restriction. By this paper, claims 73, 76-78, 82, 83, 89, 105 to 107 and 109 to 111, have been amended. Claim 108 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the claim amendments is found throughout the application papers and specifically on page 9, lines 16 through 30. New claims 118-132 have been added. Support for the new claims is found in the application papers on page 6, line 2 and pages 12 to 13. The preceding amendments are made without prejudice or disclaimer. The amendments made herein is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any subject matter of the claims as previously presented. Applicants reserve their right to pursue the prosecution of the same or similary claims in a continuing application. An issue of new matter is not raised by the amendments and entry thereof is respectfully requested. Accordingly, amended claims 73 through 107 and 109 through 132 are under examination.

In view of the preceding amendments and the remarks which follow, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections are respectfully requested.